



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Red Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine - NM0077

CERCLIS ID#: N/A

Alias Site Name: Elkins and Jones

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 17'40.18" Longitude 107 degrees 47'19.23"

City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico



650859

Report Type: AUM SA Report

Date: 05/28/10

Author: NMEMNRD

RECOMMENDATION:

☐ 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned
Under Superfund (NFRAP)

☐ 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund

☐ PA

☐ HRS

Priority:

☐ High

☐ SI

☐ RI/FS

☐ Low

☐ ESI

☐ RA

☐ Other:

To be performed by:

☐ 3. Action Deferred to: ☐ RCRA ☐ NRC ☐ BLM

☒ 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): ☐ Yes ☒ No

NOTIFY AUTHORITY:

☐ Removal

☐ RCRA

☐ TSCA

☐ CAA

☐ SMCRA

☐ Remedial

☐ State/Tribe

☐ NPDES

☐ NRC

☒ Resource Trustee: BLM

☐ CERCLA

☐ Federal

☐ UIC

☐ SPCC

☐ Other:

Enforcement

Facility

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☐ Tribal Agency

DISCUSSION:


The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Mine and Minerals Division (MMD) conducted a site assessment on April 6, 2010 at the Red Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine site. The mine operated as a dry mine. These mines are part of Section 4, which includes: Black Hawk; Bunney; UDC; Gay Eagle; Red Bluff 1, 5, 7-10; and Christmas Day. MMD observed one open cut, six pits, and eight piles with maximum gamma radiation measurement of 1250 uR/hr at one of the pits. MMD observed no evidence of erosion. There are no residences within one mile of the mine site. One non-domestic well is located within one mile of the mine site. The mine is located on mixed ownership lands; Bureau of Land Management (BLM) controls part of the surface land and part of site is privately owned. Records indicate that the mineral estate is also mixed ownership. Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between EPA and the New Mexico State Office of the BLM, August 2011, EPA and BLM will coordinate responses on mixed ownership mine sites such as the Red Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine site.

In October 2011, EPA conducted an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT). The Red Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the Red Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine site were not statistically greater than background readings in the area.

EPA recommends that the Bluff Nos. 1-5, 9 Mine should be considered a low priority under CERCLA due to low gamma radiation readings.

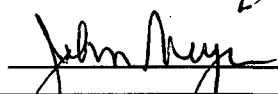
APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by: Lisa Marie Price
(Site Assessment Manager)

Signature: 

Date: 1/24/12

Disposition
Approved by: John Meyer
(Section Chief 6SF-TR)

Signature: 

Date: 1/25/12